

Indeed, the University of Arizona Wildcat basketball team this year suffered a lot of punches, many thrown in their direction. Toughest of all, head coach Lute Olson suffered a blow on New Year's Day, losing his beloved wife Bobbi to ovarian cancer. Known affectionately by players and coaches and students at the U of A alike as Mrs. O, Bobbi Olson was a special person. In fact, many considered her to be the Wildcats' sixth player. Famous for her efforts on behalf of the team and the university, her efforts in recruiting and her famous apple pancakes, Bobbi Olson provided encouragement to the players and perspective to her husband. She will be dearly missed by the Olson family and by all fans of U of A basketball. I would like to express my personal condolences to Coach Olson.

Cancer is a terrible disease that affects thousands of families each year. In fact, Mr. Speaker, cancer has reared its ugly head in my family. It took the life of my mother, and my oldest sister is today thankfully a breast cancer survivor. I share Coach Olson's grief and greatly admire his strength to overcome this tragedy as he did this year and lead his team to such a wonderful and stunning season.

The individual members of the Wildcats basketball team also deserve mention. Arizona arrived in Minneapolis this past weekend with a star-studded line-up that boasted five preseason nominees for the John Wooden Award which goes to the sport's top individual collegian. Led by junior forwards Richard Jefferson and Michael Wright, center Loren Woods and a back court of Jason Gardner and Gilbert Arenas, the Cats overcame a disappointing 8-5 start to finish the season with a 20-2 run into the final game this past Monday night. Individually, these men are exceptional athletes but, more importantly, under the coaching of Lute Olson, when they played together, they formed an exceptional team. It was this unselfish teamwork that led this talented squad to the Final Four and indeed to the final game.

In an era where the best prospects see college basketball as a 1- or 2-year stopover on their way to the next level, the NBA, I would be remiss if I did not mention a rare exception, an athlete that recognizes that an education and a contribution to society are noble pursuits. The University of Arizona had such an individual in the person of Eugene Edgerson. As a freshman reserve, he played on Arizona's 1997 national championship team. However, he was also a member of this year's gifted Wildcat team because he took a break last year to complete the student teaching requirement in a kindergarten for his degree in elementary education. Then he stayed to take graduate courses when he finished his fourth year of eligibility. Eugene says he came to school both for the books and for the hoops and could not see leaving without getting the most out of both of them. Mr. Edgerson serves as a model on and off the court.

Unfortunately on Monday night, the Wildcats came up short in their quest for a second national championship. But even in defeat, they displayed the talent and grace of a championship team.

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I want to congratulate Lute Olson. I want to congratulate all of the assistant coaches. I want to congratulate the team for its great season, for its unselfish play. You have made University of Arizona alumni like me, the student body of the U of A, the State of Arizona and fans of basketball, particularly college basketball, all across the country extremely proud. Thank you very much for a great year. I commend you all.

Our hearts and sympathies go with you, Lute. And to the team, bear down.

ARIZONA WILDCATS 2000 BASKETBALL ROSTER
No—Name, Position, Ht., Wt., Class, Hometown:

0—Gilbert Arenas, G, 6-3, 188, So, North Hollywood, CA.

2—Michael Wright, F, 6-7, 238, Jr, Chicago, IL.

3—Loren Woods, C, 7-1, 244, Sr, St. Louis, MO.

4—Luke Walton, F, 6-8, 233, So, San Diego, CA.

5—Travis Hanour, G, 6-6, 189, Fr, Laguna Beach, CA.

11—Jason Ranne, G, 6-4, 200, Fr, Tulsa, OK.

13—Andrew Zahn, F, 6-9, 254, Fr, Redondo Beach, CA.

14—Mike Schwertley, F, 6-5, 224, Fr, Phoenix, AZ.

15—John Ash, G, 5-11, 179, Sr, Tucson, AZ.

22—Jason Gardner, G, 5-10, 181, So, Indianapolis, IN.

23—Lamont Frazier, G, 6-3, 182, Sr, Los Angeles, CA.

24—Russell Harris, G, 5-11, 165, So, Mundelein, IL.

30—Justin Wessel, F, 6-8, 240, Sr, Cedar Rapids, IA.

33—Eugene Edgerson, F, 6-6, 237, Sr, New Orleans, LA.

35—Rich Anderson, F, 6-9, 213, Jr, Long Beach, CA.

44—Richard Jefferson, F, 6-7, 222, Jr, Phoenix, AZ.

Head Coach: Lute Olson.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a concurrent resolution of the House of the following title:

H. Con. Res. 93. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 106-554, the Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, appoints the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. FRIST) to the Board of Trustees for the Center for Russian Leadership Development.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 100-458, the Chair, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, reappoints William F. Winter, of Mississippi, to the Board of Trustees of the John C. Stennis Center for Pub-

lic Service Training and Development, effective October 11, 2000.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 194(a) of title 14, United States Code, as amended by Public Law 101-595, and upon the recommendation of the Chairman of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, appoints the following Senators to the Board of Visitors of the United States Coast Guard Academy—

the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN), ex officio, as Chairman of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation; and

the Senator from Illinois (Mr. FITZGERALD), Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 1295(b) of title 46, United States Code, as amended by Public Law 101-595, and upon the recommendation of the Chairman of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, appoints the following Senators to the Board of Visitors of the United States Merchant Marine Academy—

the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN), ex officio, as Chairman of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation; and

the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE), Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 106-310, the Chair, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, announces the appointment of the following individuals to serve as members of the Commission on Indian and Native Alaskan Health Care:

Sara DeCoteau, of South Dakota.

Carole Anne Heart, of South Dakota.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 106-533, the Chair, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, announces the appointment of the following Senators to serve as members of the Congressional Recognition for Excellence in Arts Education Awards Board:

The Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA).

The Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON).

OVERALL TAX RELIEF

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GRAVES). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GRUCCI) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GRUCCI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues to express my tremendous support for providing America's working families with much needed, reasonable and equitable tax relief. This legislative body needed to act comprehensively and quickly to implement a reasonable and fair tax relief package that will benefit our middle-class families, small businesses, and farmers.